Global Mapper - Tutorials and Beginner Resources

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Users' Manual

The Global Mapper Users' Manual is available here.

YouTube Channel

Global Mapper has an extensive YouTube channel featuring many useful webinars and how-to's. You may find it useful to start with the following webinars:

- Getting Started With Global Mapper - describes basic functions such a data importation, tools
- LiDAR Processing in Global Mapper - includes reclassification tools, extracting vector features, creating terrain models.
- Working With Terrains in Global Mapper - includes instructions on how to generate contours, perform volumetric calculations, slope analysis, etc.

User Forum

A user forum exists with a catalog of over 8,000 entries.

Tutorial

The Global Mapper website provides a tutorial for beginners. Registration and access to a license are required, but the tutorial is free otherwise.

The contents of the tutorial are listed below:

- **Section 1 - Introduction to the principles of GIS**
  - Importing/accessing data
  - Creating and editing vector features
  - Adjusting the appearance of vector features
  - Working with raster layers

    - Querying and filtering data
    - The basics of spatial analysis
    - Methods for sharing data
- **Section 2 - Generating a terrain surface and creating contours using LiDAR data**
    - LiDAR importing
    - LiDAR editing/processing
    - Data visualization
    - Creating a gridded surface model
    - 3D modeling
    - Shader options
    - Contour generation
- **Section 3 - Creating a thematic map**
    - Creating and managing attribute data
    - Joining attributes from an external file
    - Performing a calculation to create new attributes
    - Applying a shading pattern to reflect recurring text values
    - Applying a shading pattern to reflect numeric values
    - Designing page layout elements including a legend and map title.
    - Printing the map or exporting to a geospatial PDF
- **Section 4 - Rectifying an image file**
    - Importing a base map for rectification
    - Using field-collected ground control for rectification
    - Modifying the projection
    - Choosing a rectification method
    - Adjusting the properties of the rectified map
- **Section 5 - Extracting vector features from a raster layer**
    - Vectorizing a specific color from a topographic map
    - Vectorizing a range of colors to delineate features in from an aerial image
    - Delineating an elevation range from a digital elevation model
    - Outlining areas within a slope angle threshold
- **Section 6 - Creating a watershed model**
    - Creating a drainage network from a digital elevation model
    - Outlining the watershed boundaries for a defined area
    - Adjusting the watershed boundaries based on area and flow variable
    - Creating a water drop analysis model
    - Delineating the catchment area for a defined location